

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A spacer for a liquid crystal display,
which comprises a base particle and a polymer coating the surface of said base particle,
a contact angle A1 of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C when said spacer is annealed
at a temperature of an annealing temperature T1 or higher in fabricating a liquid crystal display
for 1 hour or more and then cooled, and a contact angle B of water on the spacer, measured at
25°C without annealing the spacer, satisfying the relationship of the following equation (1):

$$A1 - B \geq 1^\circ \quad (1).$$

2. (original): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 1,
wherein a contact angle A1 of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C when said spacer is
annealed at a temperature of an annealing temperature T1 or higher in fabricating a liquid crystal
display for 1 hour or more and then cooled, and a contact angle B of water on the spacer,
measured at room temperature without annealing the spacer, satisfy the relationship of the
following equation (2):

$$A1 - B \geq 8^\circ \quad (2).$$

3. (original): A spacer for a liquid crystal display,
which comprises a base particle and a polymer which coats the surface of said base
particle,
a contact angle A2 of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C when said spacer is annealed
at a temperature of a glass transition temperature T2 or higher of said polymer and then cooled,
and a contact angle B of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C without annealing the spacer,
satisfying the relationship of the following equation (3):

$$A2 - B \geq 1^{\circ} \quad (3).$$

4. (original): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 3,

wherein a contact angle A2 of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C when the spacer is annealed at a temperature of a glass transition temperature T2 or higher of the polymer and then cooled, and a contact angle B of water on the spacer, measured at 25°C without annealing the spacer, satisfy the relationship of the following equation (4):

$$A2 - B \geq 8^{\circ} \quad (4).$$

5. (currently amended): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 1, ~~2, 3~~
~~or 4~~,

wherein the polymer contains a component containing an alkyl group having 10 or more carbon atoms in an amount 10% by weight or more and a component containing an alkyl group having 4 or less carbon atoms in an amount 50% by weight or more.

6. (currently amended): A method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 1 ~~claims 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5~~,

which comprises the steps of coating the surface of a base particle with a polymer, and immersing said base particle coated the surface with said polymer in a liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher and then drying the base particle.

7. (original): The method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 6,

wherein the liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher has a SP value of 12 to 15.

8. (currently amended): The method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 6, ~~or 7~~,

wherein the liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher contains methanol in an amount 50% by weight or more.

9. (currently amended): A liquid crystal display,

which is obtainable by using the spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim
1 ~~any of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8.~~

10. (original): A method of measuring the contact angle of water on spacers for a liquid crystal display,

wherein a water droplet is formed on the surface
obtainable by arraying an abundance of spacers for a liquid crystal display without being
observed projections and depressions of 50 μm or larger on the surface and the contact angle of
water on said surface is measured.

11. (new): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 2,

wherein the polymer contains a component containing an alkyl group having 10 or more
carbon atoms in an amount 10% by weight or more and a component containing an alkyl group
having 4 or less carbon atoms in an amount 50% by weight or more.

12. (new): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 3,

wherein the polymer contains a component containing an alkyl group having 10 or more
carbon atoms in an amount 10% by weight or more and a component containing an alkyl group
having 4 or less carbon atoms in an amount 50% by weight or more.

13. (new): The spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 4,

wherein the polymer contains a component containing an alkyl group having 10 or more
carbon atoms in an amount 10% by weight or more and a component containing an alkyl group
having 4 or less carbon atoms in an amount 50% by weight or more.

14. (new): A method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 2,

which comprises the steps of coating the surface of a base particle with a polymer, and immersing said base particle coated the surface with said polymer in a liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher and then drying the base particle.

15. (new): A method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 3,

which comprises the steps of coating the surface of a base particle with a polymer, and immersing said base particle coated the surface with said polymer in a liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher and then drying the base particle.

16. (new): A method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 4,

which comprises the steps of coating the surface of a base particle with a polymer, and immersing said base particle coated the surface with said polymer in a liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher and then drying the base particle.

17. (new): A method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 5,

which comprises the steps of coating the surface of a base particle with a polymer, and immersing said base particle coated the surface with said polymer in a liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher and then drying the base particle.

18. (new): The method of producing a spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 7,

wherein the liquid medium having a SP value of 10 or higher contains methanol in an amount 50% by weight or more.

19. (new): A liquid crystal display,
which is obtainable by using the spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 2.

20. (new): A liquid crystal display,
which is obtainable by using the spacer for a liquid crystal display according to claim 3.